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*The University of Dayton**News Release*

June 27, 1991
Contact: Jim Feuer

**UD RECEIVES \$165,000 FEDERAL GRANT
FOR MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

DAYTON, Ohio -- The University of Dayton has received a \$165,000 federal grant to help fund a minority business development center (MBDC) in West Dayton beginning July 1.

UD will operate the center in conjunction with the Dayton chapter of the National Association of Minority Contractors and the Southwest Business Association. All three organizations are providing additional funding.

"We're trying to build a very real partnership between UD and the minority business community in making a meaningful contribution to economic development in the minority community," says John Weiler, director of UD's Center for Business and Economic Research and MBDC's executive director.

"We have been working for some time with the issue of economic disparity in the Dayton community--the most graphic example of which is the state of West Dayton. We think developing minority businesses is critical to helping redress this imbalance."

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The MBDC will be sponsored by the Minority Business Development Agency, an arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The center will provide technical assistance to minority businesses in such areas as accounting and marketing. It also will assist minority businesses in developing markets for their goods and services and in locating financing.

Under the terms of the one-year, renewable grant, the government requires at least \$5,647,000 of financial and procurement activity for minority firms, 2,240 hours of technical assistance and 112 clients to be served.

"This collaboration represents the kind of public and private sector partnership I have urged to get the most out of government programs," says U.S. Rep. Tony P. Hall, who supported UD's grant application. "This can make a maximum contribution to Dayton minority businesses with a minimum cost."

The MBDC will include a full-time staff of three and serve Montgomery, Greene, Miami and Preble counties. The center will be located at 1818 W. Third St. in West Dayton, in a building owned by the Montgomery County Community Action Agency.

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For media interviews, contact **John Weiler** at (513) 229-2453; **Warren Wise**, president of the Dayton chapter of the National Association of Minority Contractors, at (513) 854-0281; **Derek Strayhorn**, vice president of the Southwest Business Association, at (513) 263-4292; **David Hernandez**, president of the Montgomery County Community Action Agency, at (513) 225-5100; or **U.S. Rep. Tony P. Hall** at (202) 225-6465.